

Marzolf, Steve

From: Dana Schrad [dana@vachiefs.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2005 8:41 PM
To: Marzolf, Steve
Subject: FW: Wireless E-911 Legislation

Steve:

I shared your e-mail with our Legislative Committee and Executive Board members, and I will forward the answers to you. Here is a response from Bedford Police Chief Milton Graham.
Dana

From: Graham, Milton [mailto:mgraham@bedfordva.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2005 11:14 AM
To: dana@vachiefs.org
Subject: RE: Wireless E-911 Legislation

Dana: 911 funds are one of the few resources that public safety agencies can actually use and cannot be diverted. Granted there are restrictions and I feel they need to be eased up to allow for the changes in technology. We have made tremendous improvements in our 911 center since the implementation of our 911 tax. If this fund was not available, I doubt we would have 911. Grants, while nice, have many strings. They often do not allow or they restrict us to the point where we cannot purchase what we actually need. We need the local control. We have done a very good job of educating our citizens not to call 911 unless there is an emergency. This does not mean that our center is any less busy; we just handle more calls coming in on our non-emergency numbers. Results are we will probably receive less funding because of the 911 call volume if this bill goes through. Because of the 911 wireless law, our 911 wireless funding is now diverted to the County since they operate our PSAP Center. While we get credit at the year end when we settle up with the County over shared expenses, the County basically control and must approve how those funds are used.

The City still receives the 911 funds for wired lines and we use it to support our 911 projects as well as additional costs associated with operating the 911 center. We have debt service for implementation of the 911 system that we are using a large portion of the 911 funds to offset. I am not in favor any board or agency receiving and setting the rules on how 911 funds are used. The local emergency communities need to have the flexibility to address their 911 needs instead of having a board dictate how they are going to be expended. Milton Graham

From: Dana Schrad [mailto:dana@vachiefs.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2005 9:13 AM
To: Chief Bill Brown; Chief Charles Bennett; Chief Debra Duncan; Chief Doug Davis; Chief Doug Scott; Chief Mark Marshall; Chief Mike Yost; Chief Rick Rappoport; 'Phil Broadfoot'; 'Ray Lavinder'; Brian Cummings; Chief Carl Baker; Chief Charles Lowe; Chief Henry Stanley; Chief Jake Jacocks; Chief James Bryant; Graham, Milton; Chief Richard Justice; Chief Willie Fuller; Col. Stuart Cook; Colonel Dave Rohrer; Major Herman C. Davis; ROBERT L TAVENNER
Subject: FW: Wireless E-911 Legislation

FYI....I'd like to hear from you to see how this impacts our police departments. Next week I am attending the Virginia Telecommunications Association conference as a guest, and I'd like to be able to talk with industry representatives about this issue.
Dana

From: Marzolf, Steve [mailto:Steve.Marzolf@vita.virginia.gov]

11/8/2005

Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2005 2:14 PM
To: dana@vachiefs.org
Subject: RE: Wireless E-911 Legislation

[Second try...](#)

Steve Marzolf

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Division of Public Safety Communications
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Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 371-0015 (voice)
(866) 4-VA-E911 (toll free)
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steve.marzolf@vita.virginia.gov

From: Marzolf, Steve
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2005 4:41 PM
To: dana@vachiefs.org
Subject: Wireless E-911 Legislation

Good afternoon...It has been quite a while since we have talked, but I wanted to reach out to you to let you know about several changes the Wireless E-911 Services Board is proposing to our enabling legislation. Of course we are looking to build support as we go into the General Assembly session, but we would also like to make the proposed legislation through the input of a broad cross section of stakeholders. Obviously, the VACP is a significant stakeholder in all issues 9-1-1 in the Commonwealth. Frankly, I am also trying to quash a few rumors about this legislation and its tie (or lack thereof) to the taxation reform legislation.

Basically, we are trying to do three things. First, we are trying to position the Commonwealth to respond to the next big E-911 challenge, VoIP, by expanding the role of the Board to include VoIP. Simply, we want to model VoIP after the success of wireless. The second change is to allow the Board to publish best practices for PSAPs. This was requested by many of the more rural PSAPs. While the original discussion involved issuing standards, the Board backed off of full standards because of the fear of them evolving into unfunded mandates. Finally, the Board is proposing to reform the cost recovery model to a more automatic and less cumbersome funding process, which will give the PSAPs and localities greater control over how the money is spent locally AND targets more funding to the greatest needs.

I have attached a copy of the latest draft proposed by the Board. Additionally, the final draft of the Board's annual report, which explains the rationale for these changes, is available online at http://www.va911.org/board_reports.html. In the legislative changes document, the red changes are for addressing the role of the Board. The blue changes are for the best practices and the green are for the funding changes.

<<Proposed Legislation 9-2-05 clean.doc>>

I would be happy to meet with you individually or as a group with other organizations or VACP members to discuss this in greater detail. I would be very interested to hear any concerns or input you may have. In the interest of full disclosure, the Virginia Chapter of APCO has sent a letter to the Board opposing the changes, but we have also received letters from several regions and individual PSAPs supporting the changes. Again, I would be happy to discuss the changes with you in person or by telephone whenever is convenient for you. The Board has not approved the final legislative language to take forward to the General Assembly, but will be doing so at their meeting on November 9, 2005. We very much want to make the language as good as it can be. I look forward to working with you again.

11/8/2005

Thanks...

Steve Marzolf

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